

# Blades Groundwater Site (Procino Plating and Peninsula Plating)



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

**September 10, 2019**

SAM: Connor O'Loughlin

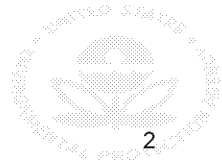
Good Evening, Thank you everyone for participating in this Site Meeting [Nonresponsive based on revised scope]

- My name is Connor O'Loughlin. I am the Site Assessment Manager for the USEPA for this site.
- This evening I will be sharing with you some of the details of [Nonresponsive based on revised scope] and the adjacent areas.

## Purpose of the Meeting:

- Discuss EPA's proposal of the Blades Groundwater Site to the National Priorities List (NPL).

Decision/Question: Would EPA continue to support the NPL listing of the two facilities and areas surrounding Blades?



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## Site Situation:

### ***Why did EPA request DNREC to do PFAS sampling?***

Procino Enterprises is currently conducting an investigation of their property under DNREC's voluntary cleanup program (VCP). During EPA's review of Site documentation to conduct a closeout of the site, new information was discovered in a photograph which indicated the use of Fumetrol 140 at the electroplating facility which contains PFAS. As a result of this information, EPA recommended DNREC sample the three municipal wells close to the site for PFAS, chromium, and VOCs. Contamination was found to be present in the three nearby municipal wells.

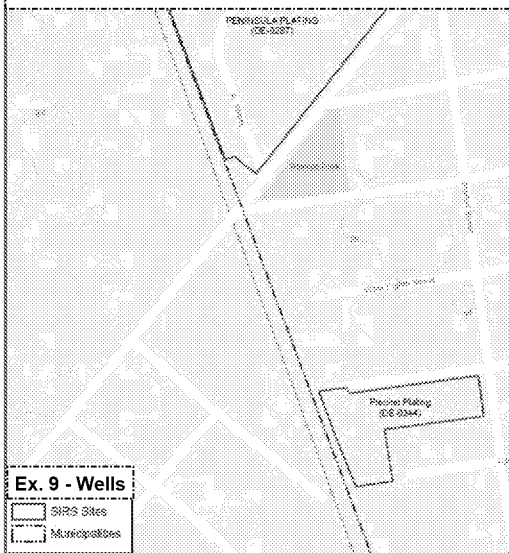
### ***Where is the PFAS contamination coming from?***

- PFAS contamination in the groundwater, soil and sediments in the vicinity of 2 nearby industrial plating facilities.
- PFAS contamination in the three municipal wells. Serves 1,600 people.
- Further assessment was necessary to determine the source(s) of contamination.
- PFAS contamination is comingled with the existing chromium/metals plumes.
- No additional sampling or remediation is planned in the future by DNREC or EPA.

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## Ex. 9 - Wells



## Ex. 9 - Wells



## Procino Plating Background:

- Procino Plating Inc. operates a manufactured ornamental plating with copper, nickel and chrome; silver and nickel plating for commercial and military use; and fabrication and hard chrome plating of griddle tops since approximately the 1980's.
  - RCRA (1994, 2002, 2007, 2008/2009), Removal (2008), Criminal Investigation (2009-2013)
  - EPA Preliminary Assessment (2010), EPA Site Inspection (2011)
  - Deferred to DNREC for investigation and cleanup (2011)
  - Remedial Investigation (2011-2016), Ongoing RI – State VCP.
  - Spring of 2016, EPA's new Site Assessment manager reviewed the PA/SI documents and noted the presence of the chemical Fumetrol 140 (wetting agent) on containers in the facility in site photographs.
  - Begin SI/HRS in Summer 2016 - Present.



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## Peninsula Plating Background:

- Peninsula Plating Inc. operated manufactured ornamental plating with copper, nickel and chrome; silver, nickel, cadmium plating for commercial use; and fabrication. Hard chrome plating of griddle tops from approximately the 1992 to June 30, 1995. Chemical storage in buildings; leaking drums, open top tanks, and containers.
  - Fire at the facility prompted investigation (1995). DNREC gained a search warrant to go onto the property. EPA OSC was alerted and inspected the facility.
  - Emergency Removal Action (August 1995 to December 1995).
  - EPA Site Inspection (1996, 1999)
  - Site was NFRAP'd (1996).
    - The wastes and soils were addressed but groundwater was not.
  - Brownfield Redevelopment (2006-2007), Leaking Tanks Removed (2007)
  - State deferred, VCP- RI/FS (2006-2007)
  - Site closed in 2010, Brownfield failed no remediation or development occurred. Site Abandoned.
  - Begin SI/HRS in Summer 2016 - Present.



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## EPA Site Inspection:

- In September 2016 – December 2018:
  - Sampled 17 existing onsite wells on the Procino Plating facility. Shallow sampling locations to assess shallow and deep groundwater risks.
    - All 17 onsite wells indicate a release to groundwater of PFAS and metals. The maximum concentration was 2,820 ppt for PFAS.
    - Hexavalent Chromium was detected in 12 of 17 wells at elevated concentrations.
  - EPA's Removal Program collected two rounds of residential groundwater samples from 54 well locations to assess the impacts to the shallow and deeper drinking water. Seven wells were impacted with PFAS.
    - PFOS was the main contaminant detected, with concentrations ranging from 44 ppt to 350 ppt. PFOA concentrations in these wells ranged from 14 to 47 ppt.
  - EPA installed and sampled 21 monitoring wells throughout the Town of Blades as part of the SI.
    - Offsite migration has been confirmed as a release to groundwater of PFAS and metals. PFAS ranges from 34 to 610 ppt.
  - EPA sampled the three public wells twice to determine concentrations based on season.
    - PFOS ranging from 53 ppt to 210 ppt. PFOA ranging from 19 ppt to 26 ppt.
  - Sampled ten locations in streams and river to assess if contaminated from groundwater.
    - PFOS was detected in 1 SW location at 16 ppt and one sediment location. PFNA was detected in three SW samples.

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Notes:

**Nonresponsive based on revised scope**



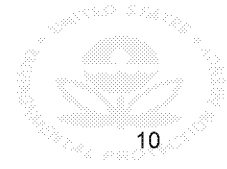
## HRS/NPL Concerns:

- Limited soil remediation was conducted during the RI's and Removal Actions. Groundwater remediation will not occur by the PRP in the future under the VCP.
- EPA only determined an absence or presence of PFAS and metals contamination migrating to the public and residential wells during the SI.
- DNREC's VCP programs are not sufficiently setup to manage a large area, complex hydrogeology, multiple migration pathways, and PFAS in groundwater.
- Additional investigation, and cleanup under DNREC's VCP program are not intended in the future due to limited private funding. Therefore, the contamination will be a continued threat to sole source drinking water sources.
- PRP's have limited funding or are no longer a viable. Or exhausted other EPA and DNREC programs

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## Consultation with Stakeholders

- DNREC supports additional assessment of the facilities, offsite groundwater and supports the progression to HRS and listing.
- Conduct consultation and begin transfer to EPA RPM/Technical Support.
- Continue EPA consultation process with the Region/OSRTI and headquarters.
- Discuss HRS with DNREC, DE-ODW, DE-DHSS, Town of Blades.



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## Path Forward:

- Site Inspection (SI) - Complete
  - The intention of the SI was to be able to confirm or deny the presence of contamination at the facilities, characterize if contamination is migrating from the sites, identify sources, and isolate the flow direction. The SI was EPAs screening activity to determine what steps were needed next at the site.
- EPA and DNREC concur with HRS/NPL
  - EPA Lead Assessment: EPA will discuss SI results during a public meeting.
  - Present EPA's HRS documentation and rationale.
  - Proceed to NPL.



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## Current Situation / Next Steps

- The finished drinking water supplied by The Town of Blades continues to meet Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Act standards, as shared annually in its water quality reports.
- Governor's letter dated 8/30/2019, indicates Delaware's supports a continued investigation of the two facilities under the NPL.
- 60-day public comment period on begins October 24, 2019.
- EPA decides whether to list the site, and then EPA will publish a formal notice to the Federal Register.
- Once listed on the NPL, EPA RPM will lead the clean-up effort.

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I will now welcome my colleague Randy Sturgen to discuss where we go from here...

Questions or Comments?

